

THE STATE'S WORK IN AGRICULTURE

Department Agriculture
Received \$164,439.46

THE BOARD HEARS REPORTS

Commissioner Graham Says Department is in Excellent Condition—Estimates This Year's Cotton Crop as About 600,000 Bales in State—The Yield of Corn Per Acre Averaged 20 Bushels, and States That Fully 50,000 People Attended the Farmers' Institutes.

The State Board of Agriculture is now in session in the city, the business before it being the reception of reports from the various officers of the State Department of Agriculture, an examination of the work done and the preparing of recommendations to the Legislature.

The members of the Board who are in attendance are: Maj. W. A. Graham, chairman; H. C. Carter, of Fairfield; K. W. Barnes, of Lucama; William Dunn, of New Bern; H. D. Edgerston, of Louisburg; R. W. Scott, of Melville; A. T. McCallum, of Red Springs; William Bledsoe, of Gale; W. G. Shuford, of Hickory, and A. Cannon, of Horse Shoe.

The Reports Presented.

The Board was in session all day yesterday and the reports of the work done in the various departments were made by the heads of the departments. Reports were made by Messrs. B. W. Kilgore, State Chemist; H. H. Brimley, Curator State Museum; William G. Chrisman, State Veterinarian; Franklin Sherman, State Entomologist; W. N. Hutt, State Horticulturist; W. M. Allen, Food Chemist; T. B. Parker, Demonstrator and Director of Farmers' Institutes; Bronson Earlow, Botanist; J. L. Burgess, Agronomist; J. A. Conover, Dairy Work; and Miss Stillman, Weed and Seed Investigation. In these reports the work done was set out, plans for the future discussed and recommendations made.

Report of the Commissioner.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Maj. W. A. Graham, was an elaborate one, going into detail concerning the work of the department. From that report the following extracts are made:

"The year we are closing is one of the most notable agriculturally in the history of the State. The largest wheat crop and the largest and best in quality corn crop have been garnered. The cotton crop, while not equal to that of last year in number of bales, will be around six hundred thousand bales, and the price will probably make the amount of money received as large or larger.

"There has been great advance along all lines, agriculturally. The average of production of corn is thought to have reached twenty bushels per acre, where it was reported as only fourteen bushels four years ago. The average for the United States is put at twenty-nine bushels. North Carolina can and will reach, and perhaps surpass, these figures in a few years. A number of counties have exceeded it this year. A large corn crop must be accompanied by hogs and other stock to consume it, in order to receive the greatest return for it.

"The exhibits at the fairs indicate that attention is being paid to hogs and that there are in the State, as far as blood is concerned, as fine as can be had anywhere.

"The dairy industry is receiving attention, and silos have been erected generally under the supervision of one of the department forces.

Financial Statement.

Fertilizer tags	\$126,181.04
Cotton-seed meal tags	14,026.22
Feed stamps	20,646.07
Adjustments	1,350.39
Condimental feed license	1,280.00
Seed license	875.00
Hog serum	40.50
Sales from oats	11.05
Sales from tobacco	49.19
Total	\$164,459.46
Disbursements	159,610.65

Balance	\$ 4,848.81
Less amount overdrawn	
December 1, 1909	3,414.24

Balance in Treasury December 1, 1910	\$ 1,434.57
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At Agricultural Fairs.
"The agricultural exhibits, with scarcely a single exception, were the

best in the history of the fairs, especially that at the State Fair. The premiums offered by the department were largely the incentives to this, and the exhibits competing for the premiums offered by the board composed the greater part of the agricultural exhibit.

For Tobacco Expert.

"The national department has co-operated with this department in tick eradication, dairy demonstration, seed inspection, tobacco work and soil survey. Authority to continue this co-operation is requested, and that two hundred and fifty dollars of the salary of the tobacco expert be paid by this department; this will enable the department to use this officer in institute work, demonstration or other work; he will be part of the force of the department and all his time will be given to work in this State.

Division of Chemistry.

"Your consideration is requested as to the advisability of taxing floats or ground phosphate rock and establishing a standard for it. Large quantities of it are now being imported into the State to be used in the preparation of fertilizers, also the same as to such goods as 'Lee's Prepared Lime.'

Entomology.

"Attention is called to the proposed new regulation concerning the boll weevil.

Animal Industry Division.

"Tick eradication has progressed so far that Franklin, Wake, Randolph, Chatham, Montgomery and Stanly counties will be released from quarantine and declared free territory December 1, 1910.

Instructions have been given in aid of the erection of forty-seven silos in 20 counties. Suitable land adjacent to this city has been leased for use in the manufacture of serum for vaccination, to prevent hog cholera.

Dr. B. P. Flowe, of Catawba county, was appointed assistant veterinarian. Mr. L. A. Higgins has been appointed assistant in dairy demonstration work.

Adulterated Food Decreasing.

"The director reports that adulteration and misbranding of food products are greatly on the decrease. In 1900 fifty-six per cent of the samples collected were adulterated; in 1903, thirty-two per cent; in 1910, fifteen per cent.

"The question of adulterating flour by bleaching is still in the United States courts; it has been declared an adulteration so far as the matter has been decided. When it is determined by the United States Supreme Court, the ruling of this department will be in accordance with that which shall be established by the national department.

"Several violations of the pure food law have been reported to solicitors, as appears from the report of the food chemist. Some of these have been disposed of, others are still on the trial docket. In all cases reported by the department the parties have been found guilty.

Concentrated Feeds.

"Inspectors have carefully performed the work and not many violations have been reported. One car of cotton seed meal was seized and sold for violation of the law and the violation reported to the solicitor of the 12th judicial district, who now has the matter in charge. I ask your consideration of the advisability of omitting the word 'meal' from the sacks or packages containing 'cottonseed feed meal' so that it will be marked 'cotton seed feed.' It is thought that cotton seed feed meal is sometimes bought for cottonseed meal and used in preparing fertilizers, for which it is not suitable. The suit involving the constitutionality of the law is still pending in Cumberland county superior court.

"There has been received \$10,334.65 during the past six months from the sale of feed stamps. Of this amount \$7,623.34 was received from outside the State.

Institutes and Demonstration.

"The interest in the institute work increases and they are more largely attended each year. The audiences this year in 84 counties exceeded fifty thousand people. The institutes for women are as interesting and beneficial as those for the man, and they have aided much in the advance in agriculture. To the institute work more than to anything else is due the progress the farmers have made. Boys' Corn Clubs were organized in 71 counties; eleven hundred and fifty-four contestants were enrolled.

Horticulture.

"Mr. O. M. Clark has been appointed assistant, and entered upon his duties early in October.

"The display of fruit collected and exhibited at the State Fair was among the finest ever made in the State. At the National Horticultural Fair at Des Moines, Iowa, November 14, first prizes were awarded the exhibit from this State for best exhibit from eastern and Atlantic States of fruit and of vegetables; best exhibit of fruit in the United States, best exhibit of nuts in the United States, and more than forty other prizes for various displays.

Agronomy.

"This work is highly appreciated by the people. The department is at work on 58 farms in 11 counties, and there are 46 other counties (in all fifty-seven) desiring us to co-operate with them. This will render necessary at least one more assistant. I recommend that the commissioner be authorized to appoint additional one,

if it should develop that he is necessary for the efficient prosecution of the work.

"Mr. C. M. Garren has been appointed assistant agronomist and is presenting efficient service. Mr. Worthen will be connected with this work as chief assistant in charge of soil investigations.

The Oil Division.

"Work has progressed satisfactorily in the division; the standard recommended by the oil chemist was approved by the oil committee, and is now subject to your action. He, however, recommended a slight change to which your attention is asked.

The oil tax for the six months amount to	\$21,519.37
Expenses	14,663.41
Paid treasury	8,000.00

Balance in treasury	\$ 2,189.87
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"The case against the 'Red C. Oil Company' for violation of the law is still pending in Guilford county Superior Court.

'North Carolina and Its Resources.'

"The issue of 'North Carolina and Its Resources,' published some 15 years ago is about exhausted. There is much need for such a publication. It will require perhaps \$2,000 to collect and prepare the material, and \$8,000 to \$10,000 to publish same. It the material is collected the board can request the Legislature to allow the publication of same to be paid from the oil money.

Price of German Potash Salts.

"I call your attention to the correspondence as to export tax of \$22 per ton, which the German government proposes to collect. The American fertilizer companies are contending that the Germans must fill their contracts at the figures agreed upon before the tax was instituted.

Resignation of Mr. Horne.

"Since the last session of the board one of our most valuable members, Hon. Ashley Horne, representative of the fourth congressional district, has resigned to become a member of the general assembly. His services as a member were very valuable.

"His Excellency has appointed Mr. H. D. Egerton, a prominent farmer of Franklin county, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Horne's resignation."

RAIL FENCE PHILOSOPHY.

It takes some of a good many years to find out that bitterness and jealousy are the most unmarketable crops we can raise in our hearts.

Our conscience is always a sure and safe signboard when we come to where the forks of the road point to truth and dishonesty.

We ought to take stock of everything in the barn at least once a year, and also size up our normal equipment more frequently to keep our hearts sweet and clean.

Some men go along through life without discovering the difference between a wife and a slave with a title given her by the license clerk and the minister.

STINGLESS BEES.

Mexican stingless bees are to be introduced into the State of Missouri early this winter as an aid in fruit culture.

Missouri has not realized until recently the absolute necessity of bees in the raising of fruit.

Millions of fruit trees have been planted over the State without a corresponding increase in the number of bees, the result being that only a small per cent of the blossoms becomes pollenized, and consequently the fruit falls prematurely.

BIG CROPS—LOWER PRICES.

Record-breaking crops, led by corn with the greatest harvest ever gathered, were produced by the farmers of the United States during this year, according to a report of the bureau of statistics of the Department of Agriculture.

The aggregate production of crops in 1910 are approximately 7.6 per cent greater than the crops of 1909, and about 9.1 greater than the average annual production of the preceding five years. Prices for important crops averaged on November 1 about 5.4 per cent lower than a year ago.

NOVEL PLOW FOR RECLAIMED SWAMPS.

The peculiar character of the soil in the reclaimed swamps of Louisiana has caused the development of an unusual mechanical device, known technically as the "caterpillar."

When the water is drained away from the swamp lands the soil at first is so soggy that a horse cannot walk on it. For some time this sponginess makes it impossible to do anything toward development.

The necessity of plowing the land, and also for rolling it, caused makers of traction engines to put broad wheels on light machines. These wheels are connected by a belt of heavy wood that forms a roadway wherever the machine goes. The movable sidewalk under the machine is broad enough so that the engine does not become mired. When the soil has been rolled and plowed in this manner it quickly becomes firm enough for ordinary farming.

A dirty dollar never brings any permanent good to the man who soils his soul by taking it.

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FARMING THAT PAYS.

**Bale of Cotton to Acre on 60 Acres—
10 Bales on 5 Acres.**

(Greenville Reflector.)

Mr. J. T. Thorne, of Farmville, has just harvested and marketed, we venture to say, the largest cotton crop to the amount of land used that has ever been harvested in P.M. county. The news has been given us that from sixty acres of land he gathered sixty bales of cotton and from five acres ten bales. This is the kind of farming that pays and we believe every farmer in Eastern Carolina can do as well if they will be careful in selection of seed, preparation of soil and cultivation.

Mr. Thorne is one of the few farmers who are taking advantage of the farm demonstration work. In preparing for this remarkable crop, which was demonstration work, he first began by making a very careful selection of seed, deep breaking of the land, with two-horse plows, and consistent fertilization—using 800 pounds of guano to the acre. A disc harrow was also used, and in cultivation he plowed light.

The seed from Mr. Thorne's cotton was sold for \$1 per bushel and they will be used for planting next year.

The farm demonstration work, carried on by the Government, is, and will continue to prove the greatest boon to the farmers of anything that has ever been set forth for their uplift.

When Corbett Beat Sullivan.

Writing in Harper's Weekly William Ingalls describes Corbett's defeat of Sullivan in the historic encounter at New Orleans, eighteen years ago. "I see him yet," says this author, telling of the last phase of the meeting after Sullivan had failed to rise. "His face was battered, swollen, and bleeding, and God knows what thoughts flashed through his mind of life wasted, fortune squandered, of dominion wrenched from his hands; but John's great heart never wavered for an instant. He raised the thick right arm that had stricken down hundreds of warriors, and the roaring crowd fell silent. 'Gentlemen,' he mumbled, 'I have nothing at all to say. All I have to say is that I came into the ring once too often, and, if I had to get licked, I'm glad I was licked by an American. I remain your warm and personal friend, John L. Sullivan.'

The Reds of the Midi

(Continued from page thirteen.)

tioned with his company as guard in front of a guillotine in the Place de la Revolution. The "national knife" was descending to chop off the heads of the aristocrats. He saw two old people dragged forward. They were the old Marquis d'Ambrum and the Marquise, his wife. For all their crimes he wanted to come to their rescue, but he looked up and saw written on the crosspiece of the instrument of death the word "Adeline." The Marquis looked up as she fell on her knees and saw the name written on the crossbeam. Then a third person was dragged to the falling knife. He was a big fellow and he struggled and fought as he was dragged to his doom. It was Surto, but his head went into the basket just the same.

Three times the knife fell and three times heads fell into the basket—heads with eyelids still fluttering and with jaws still working, that bit the bloody sawdust as they fell.

But other drums than those of the Terror were sounding and new regions were to be conquered by France "drunk with blood." Things moved too rapidly for Pascalet to get an opportunity to see again his dear southern land, but one day, it was in the Thermidor of the year IV., as he, weary with fighting, having just finished his share in the killing of fifteen thousand Mamelukes, was sitting at the foot of the great Pyramid of Cheops, a man came to him and said: "If I am not wrong, comrade, you are Pascalet, the son of La Petinette, and I'd know you anyway by the way you speak, as from Provence." It was a man whom Pascalet had seen before, but had not known intimately, but he ventured to ask the question: "Do you know whatever became of Mademoiselle Adeline, the daughter of the Marquis d'Ambrum?" "Oh, yes," replied the soldier. "She died last year. I am only a recruit. She was an Ursuline nun and died because she was in love with somebody who left her to go off to the wars. But she became a nun and died as one. But, tell me, comrade, did you ever know a man named Vauclair, who lived in Avignon?" Pascalet did not answer. And in a few moments the trumpets called together the adventurous army which General Bonaparte had taken to look in the face of the Sphinx.